

(Bulletin for Statehouse, Capitol Mall Employees October 15, 2001)

Department of Administration
Construction Update No. 11

**Working From
Top Of East Stairway
To the Bottom ...**

Crews Build Forms, Set Re-Bar for New Support Beams



This week's activity on the East Steps Replacement Project continues with the setting of rebar around the new concrete support beams that were poured last week. The re-bar is being set for the pouring of the concrete slab, which will be placed over the storage room under the stairs.

The concrete is scheduled for placement in this area tomorrow, Tuesday (Oct. 16). After this is done the contractor will proceed with building the forms and setting re-bar in the next suspended slabs that will span the support beams already in place. At the same time they will be building the plywood forms for the actual stairs. The contractor is working his way from the top of the stairway to the bottom.

The storage rooms under the stairs are similar on the East and West ends of the building. The room itself is quite small, 8 ft. x 12 ft., with a sloped ceiling that is 8 ft. high at the door, and 4 ft. high at the rear. In the recent past, nothing has been stored in these rooms because of moisture problems. Originally these rooms probably accommodated groundskeeping equipment.

Masons are continuing their work on the north face of the East wing. **Watch for a more detailed story with photos on this intricate process in an upcoming issue.** The masonry experts are working from the cornice level (top of the wall) down. The placement of grout and sealant can only be done during the warm part of the day, when the temperature is at least 40 degrees and rising. Some allowance has to be made for the stone surface to heat up as well. So during these crisp cold fall days it may be mid-day before the joint replacement work can begin. Removal work can be performed without the temperature restraints, but it is unwise to remove more than can be replaced within a day or two. Leaving the cleaned out joints exposed can allow moisture to get further into the stone if adverse weather hits before the joint is replaced.

Please note: The intent of **Renewal News** is to provide readers the most current and complete information as possible regarding construction activities during the Capitol Restoration project. However, construction schedules are always subject to change, based upon weather conditions, transport and acquisition of support equipment and personnel, or other unforeseen circumstances. Inquiries, comments on the Restoration effort can be sent to **Diane Blume** dblume@adm.state.id.us **Renewal News** online at: <http://www.idahocapitolcommission.org/whatsnew.html> If you have questions about this newsletter, contact **Pat Wynn** at 332-1827 or pwynn@adm.state.id.us